

Serial No.: 10/588,022

PU040041

Remarks

In view of the above amendments to the claims and the following discussion, the applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are anticipated under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 102, or obvious under the provisions of 35 U. S. C. § 103. Furthermore, all of the claims now pending in the application satisfy the requirements of 35 U. S. C. § 112. Thus, the applicants believe that all of these claims are in allowable form.

OBJECTIONS**A. Claims**

The Examiner objects to claims 10 and 12-15 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. The Examiner has indicated that claims 10 and 12-15 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicants have amended claim 9 to include the limitation of claim 10. Applicants have cancelled claim 10. In view of these amendments to the claims, the basis for the Examiners' objection thereto has been removed. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this objection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the applicants believe that all of the claims now pending in the application are in allowable form and this application is presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

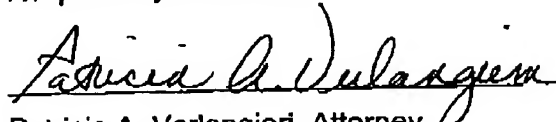
If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Ms. Patricia A. Verlangieri, at (609)

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734-6867, so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,



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December 19, 2008